

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
TYLER DIVISION**

**U.S. ETHERNET INNOVATIONS, LLC**

**Plaintiff**

**vs.**

**ACER, INC., ET AL.**

**Defendants**

§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§

**CASE NO. 6:09cv448  
PATENT CASE**

**DISCOVERY ORDER**

After review of the pleaded claims and defenses in this action and in furtherance of the management of the Court's docket under Fed. R. Civ. P. 16, the Court enters the following Discovery Order:

1. **Disclosures.** Within thirty (30) days after the Scheduling Conference, and without awaiting a discovery request, each party shall disclose to every other party the following information:
  - A. the correct names of the parties to the lawsuit;
  - B. the name, address, and telephone number of any potential parties;
  - C. the legal theories and, in general, the factual bases of the disclosing party's claims or defenses (the disclosing party need not marshal all evidence that may be offered at trial);
  - D. the name, address, and telephone number of persons having knowledge of relevant facts, a brief statement of each identified person's connection with the case, and a brief, fair summary of the substance of the information known by such person;
  - E. any indemnity and insuring agreements under which any person or entity may be liable to satisfy part or all of a judgment entered in this action or to indemnify or reimburse for payments made to satisfy the judgment;
  - F. any settlement agreements relevant to the subject matter of this action;
  - G. any statement of any party to the litigation;
2. **Additional Disclosures.** Each party shall provide to every other party the following information:
  - A. the disclosures required by the Court's Patent Rules in accordance with the deadlines set forth in said rules and the Court's Docket Control Order;
  - B. to the extent that any party pleads a claim for relief or defensive matter other than

those addressed in the Patent Rules<sup>1</sup>, on or before May 20, 2010, and without awaiting a discovery request, a copy of all documents, data compilations and tangible things in the possession, custody, or control of the party that are relevant to those additionally pleaded claims or defenses involved in this action. By written agreement of all parties, alternative forms of disclosure may be provided in lieu of paper copies. For example, the parties may agree to exchange images of documents electronically or by means of computer disk; or the parties may agree to review and copy disclosure materials at the offices of the attorneys representing the parties instead of requiring each side to furnish paper copies of the disclosure materials; and

- C. on or before May 20, 2010, a complete computation of any category of damages claimed by any party to the action, making available for inspection and copying (See Local Rule CV-34), the documents or other evidentiary materials on which such computation is based, including materials bearing on the nature and extent of injuries suffered; and those documents and authorizations described in Local Rule CV-34.

- 3. **Testifying Experts.** Each side is limited to two testifying expert witnesses. By the date provided in the Docket Control Order, each party shall disclose to the other party or parties:

- A. The expert's name, address, and telephone number;
- B. The subject matter on which the expert will testify;
- C. A report as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B);
- D. If the expert is not retained by, employed by, or otherwise subject to the control of the disclosing party, documents reflecting the general substance of the expert's mental impressions and opinions;
- E. If the expert is retained by, employed by, or otherwise subject to the control of the disclosing party;
  - (1) all documents, tangible things, reports, models, or data compilations that have been provided to, reviewed by, or prepared by or for the expert in anticipation of the expert's testimony; and
  - (2) the expert's current resume and bibliography.

- 4. **Discovery Limitations.** Discovery is limited in this cause to the disclosures described in Paragraphs 1 - 3 together with the following:

- A. **Interrogatories.** Plaintiff may serve up to twenty-five (25) interrogatories on each Defendant. Defendants may serve up to ten (10) common interrogatories on Plaintiff. Each Defendant may also serve up to fifteen (15) additional individual interrogatories on Plaintiff.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Patent Rules are Appendix M to the Local Rules which are available on the Court's website at [www.txed.uscourts.gov](http://www.txed.uscourts.gov).

- B. **Requests for Admission.** Defendants request that Plaintiff be allowed to serve 20 requests for admission on each Defendant, and that each Defendant be allowed to serve 20 requests for admission on Plaintiff.
- C. **Fact Depositions of Parties and Third Parties.** Plaintiff and Defendants may collectively each take up to one hundred and fifty (150) hours of deposition testimony. This time will include the depositions of parties and third-parties, but excludes expert witnesses. The Court contemporaneously issues a separate Memorandum Opinion and Order further addressing these requests.
- D. **Expert Depositions.** Depositions of expert witnesses shall be limited as follows. The parties agree to meet and confer in good faith regarding additional deposition time should a single expert be designated to testify on multiple subjects, such as infringement and validity.
- (I) **Infringement:** Each side may depose the opposing side's infringement expert(s) for no more than seven (7) hours per expert, unless an expert addresses more than one Defendant, in which case such expert may be deposed for an additional five (5) hours per additional Defendant addressed.
  - (ii) **Invalidity and Unenforceability:** Each side may depose the other side's experts on invalidity and unenforceability for a total of seven (7) hours for each expert.
  - (iii) **Damages:** Each side may depose the opposing side's damages expert(s) for no more than seven (7) hours per expert, unless an expert addresses more than one Defendant, in which case such expert may be deposed for an additional five (5) hours per additional Defendant addressed.
5. **Privileged Information.** There is no duty to disclose privileged documents or information. However, the parties are directed to meet and confer concerning privileged documents or information after the Scheduling Conference. By the date provided in the Docket Control Order, the parties shall exchange privilege logs identifying the documents or information and the basis for any disputed claim of privilege in a manner that, without revealing information itself privileged or protected, will enable the other parties to assess the applicability of the privilege or protection. A party may move the Court for an order compelling the production of any privileged documents or information identified on any other party's privilege log. If such a motion is made, the party asserting privilege shall file with the Court within thirty (30) days of the filing of the motion to compel any proof in the form of declarations or affidavits to support their assertions of privilege, along with the documents over which privilege is asserted for in camera inspection. If the parties have no disputes concerning privileged documents or information, then the parties shall file a notice so stating by the date provided in the Docket Control Order.
6. **Inadvertent Production of Privileged Or Undiscoverable Material.** If any party inadvertently produces privileged or undiscoverable material, that party shall not be deemed to have waived any applicable objection to production or any privilege or immunity. Upon

discovery by the disclosing party that it has produced such material, the disclosing party shall, within ten days of discovering the inadvertent production, make a written request briefly stating the basis for withholding the material and requesting the return or destruction of the material. Upon receiving such a request, all recipients of the privileged material shall immediately comply. If a recipient chooses to destroy the material in lieu of returning it, the recipient shall provide a written certification to the disclosing party that it has destroyed the privileged material as soon as is reasonably practicable.

7. **Pre-trial Disclosures.** By the date provided in the Docket Control Order, each party shall provide to every other party the following disclosures regarding the evidence that the disclosing party intends to present at trial:
  - A. The name and, if not previously provided, the address and telephone number, of each witness, separately identifying those whom the party expects to present at trial and those whom the party may call if the need arises.
  - B. The designation of those witnesses whose testimony is expected to be presented by means of a deposition and, if not taken stenographically, a transcript of the pertinent portions of the deposition testimony.
  - C. An appropriate identification of each document or other exhibit, including summaries of other evidence, separately identifying those which the party expects to offer and those which the party may offer if the need arises.

By the date provided in the Docket Control Order, a party may serve and file a list disclosing (1) any objections to the use under Rule 32(a) of a deposition designated by another party under subparagraph "B." above; and (2) any objections, together with the grounds therefor, that may be made to the admissibility of materials identified under subparagraph "C." above. Objections not so disclosed, other than objections under Rules 402 and 403 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, shall be deemed waived unless excused by the Court for good cause shown.

8. **Signature.** The disclosures required by this order shall be made in writing and signed by the party or counsel and shall constitute a certification that, to the best of the signer's knowledge, information and belief, such disclosure is complete and correct as of the time it is made.
9. **Exchange of Disclosures.** If feasible, counsel shall meet to exchange disclosures required by this order; otherwise, such disclosures shall be served as provided by Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.
10. **Notification of the Court.** The parties shall promptly file a notice with the Court that the disclosures required under this Order have taken place.
11. **Duty to Supplement.** After disclosure is made pursuant to this order, each party is under a duty to supplement or correct its disclosures immediately if the party obtains information on the basis of which it knows that the information disclosed was either incomplete or incorrect when made, or is no longer complete or true.
12. **Requests for Production.** Because documents relevant to any claim or defense are to be

produced pursuant to the Patent Rules and paragraphs one and two of this Order, requests for production are unnecessary. However, should a party believe that certain relevant documents have not been produced, that party may request said documents by letter. The Court will entertain a motion to compel documents without the necessity of a movant propounding formal requests for production.

13. **Discovery Disputes.** Counsel are directed to contact the chambers of the undersigned for any “hot-line” disputes before contacting the Discovery Hotline provided by Local Rule CV-26(f). If the undersigned is not available, the parties shall proceed in accordance with Local Rule CV-26(f).
14. **Discovery Conferences.** Within 72 hours of the Court setting any discovery motion for hearing, each party’s lead trial counsel and local counsel shall meet and confer in person or by telephone in an effort to resolve the dispute without Court intervention. Counsel shall promptly notify the Court of the results of the meeting. Attendance by proxy is not permitted. Unless excused by the Court, lead counsel shall attend any discovery hearing set by the Court.
15. **No Excuses.** A party is not excused from the requirements of this Discovery Order because it has not fully completed its investigation of the case, or because it challenges the sufficiency of another party’s disclosures, or because another party has not made its disclosures. Absent court order to the contrary, a party is not excused from disclosure because there are pending motions to dismiss, to remand or to change venue. Parties asserting the defense of qualified immunity may submit a motion to limit disclosure to those materials necessary to decide the issue of qualified immunity.
16. **Protective Orders.** A copy of the Court’s standard protective order is available on the Court’s website at [www.txed.uscourts.gov](http://www.txed.uscourts.gov) entitled “Judge Davis Standard Protective Order.” A party may request that the Court issue the Protective Order. However, a party may propose to modify the terms of the Protective Order for good cause. The Court authorizes the parties to file any document that is subject to a protective order under seal.
17. **Courtesy Paper Copies.** Paper copies will not be accepted by this Court unless specifically requested.
18. **Hearing Notebooks.** With the exception of providing notebooks to the appointed technical advisor, hearing notebooks are no longer required or requested. However, the Court may request hearing notebooks in specific instances.

**So ORDERED and SIGNED this 7th day of April, 2010.**

  
JOHN D. LOVE  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE